

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A fibrous web containing a filler, wherein the filler ~~which~~ is a substance in a granular form, having a rotationally symmetrical shape and an inner part and a crust part, whereby the density of the inner part is lower than the crust part, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein
the density of the inner part is about 10 to 90% of that of the crust part, and
the amount of filler used is 3 to 60% of ~~the~~ an amount of solids.
2. (currently amended) A ~~The~~ fibrous web according to Claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the density of the inner part of the filler granule is ~~about 10 to 90%, preferably about 40 to 80% of that of the crust part.~~
3. (previously presented) A ~~The~~ fibrous web according to Claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the filler granule consists of pigment particles and a binder.
4. (currently amended) A ~~The~~ fibrous web according to Claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the density of the pigment particles is 1500 to 7000 kg/m³, ~~preferably about 2000 to 3100 kg/m³.~~
5. (currently amended) A ~~The~~ fibrous web according to Claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the density of the filler granule is 400 to 6300 kg/m³, ~~preferably 600 to 2800 kg/m³~~, whereby the density of the inner part is about 50 to 5700 kg/m³, ~~preferably 700 to 1500 kg/m³~~, and the density of the crust part is about 600 to 6300 kg/m³, ~~preferably 1700 to 2000 kg/m³.~~
6. (currently amended) A ~~The~~ fibrous web according to Claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the inner part of the filler granule contains rougher pigment particles in relation to the crust part.

7. (currently amended) ~~A~~ The fibrous web according to Claim 1, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ the porosity of the inner part of the filler granule is higher than that of the crust part, whereby the pore volume of the inner part is 10 to 70% by volume, ~~preferably about 30 to 60% by volume.~~

8. (currently amended) ~~A~~ The fibrous web according to Claim 1, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ the crust part of the filler granule comprises metal silicate, metal sulphate or metal carbonate particles, which are bound to one another by means of a cross-linked binder, whereby they form a dense fine and flexible coat that surrounds the inner part.

9. (currently amended) ~~A~~ The fibrous web according to Claim 1, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ the filler particles of the filler granule comprise any inorganic substance, ~~for example, kaolins, ground or precipitated calcium carbonates.~~

10. (currently amended) ~~A~~ The fibrous web according to Claim 1, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ the particle size (ϕ) of the granulated filler is 1 to 100 μm , ~~preferably 5 to 50 μm .~~

11. (currently amended) ~~A~~ The fibrous web according to Claim 1, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ the substance in the granular form is plastically deformable under the effect of pressure and/or temperature.

12. (currently amended) ~~A~~ The fibrous web according to Claim 1, ~~characterized in containing~~ including 3 to 30% by weight of the filler in granular form, whereby the bonding strength of the fibrous web is essentially the same as that of a corresponding fibrous web that contains no filler.

13. (currently amended) ~~A~~ The fibrous web according to Claim 1, ~~characterized in containing~~ including over 30% by weight of the filler in granular form.

14. (Withdrawn, Currently Amended) A method for manufacturing a fibrous web, such as a board, paper or non-woven web containing a filler and having a good tensile strength, the method comprising the inclusion of the filler in the fibrous web, the filler being a substance in a granular form and having a rotationally symmetrical shape and an inner part and a crust part, and the density of the inner part being lower than the crust part, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the density of the inner part is about 10 to 90% of that of the crust part, and the amount of filler used is 3 to 60% of the amount of solids.

15. (Withdrawn, Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The method according to Claim 14, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein at least 10% by weight of the filler of the fibrous web consists of the granulated filler, whereby its tensile strength is at least 10% better than that of a corresponding fibrous web that contains a mineral pigment that is essentially fully ground.

16. (Withdrawn, Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The method according to Claim 14, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein a granulated filler is used, the particle size (ϕ) of which is 1 to 100 μm , ~~preferably 5 to 50 μm .~~

17. (Withdrawn, Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The method according to Claim 14, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the amount of granulated filler used is 3 to 60% of the web's dry weight.

18. (Withdrawn, Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The method according to Claim 14, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the fibrous web containing the filler is coated with a coating composition.

19. (Withdrawn, Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The method according to Claim 14, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein to obtain a predefined level of opacity, the amount of coating pigment used is 30% smaller

than when providing a corresponding level of opacity with a fibrous web that contains powdery mineral pigments.

20. (Withdrawn, Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The method according to Claim 14, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the substance in the granular form is plastically deformable under the effect of pressure and/or temperature.

21. (Withdrawn, Currently Amended) A method for improving the fire resistance properties of a fibrous web that contains a filler and has a good tensile strength, whereby the filler is a massive substance in a granular form, having a rotationally symmetrical shape and an inner part and a crust part, and the density of the inner part is lower than the crust part, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the density of the inner part is about 10 to 90% of that of the crust part, and the amount of filler used is 3 to 60% of the amount of dry matter.

22. (Withdrawn, Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The method according to Claim 21, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the substance in the granular form forms at least 10% by weight of the filler of the fibrous web.

23. (Withdrawn, Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The method according to Claim 21, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the substance in the granular form forms 50 to 100% of the filler of the fibrous web.

24. (Withdrawn, Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The method according to Claim 21, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the substance in the granular form is plastically deformable under the effect of pressure and/or temperature.

25. (New) The fibrous web according to Claim 1, wherein the amount of filler used is 30% to 60% of the amount of solids.